FOR INFORMATION CALL

February 11, 2005

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton (414) 286-2221

MEDIA ADVISORY

A Call For Responsible Gun Ownership

Ald. Hamilton To Co-host Monday News Event to Show Support For New Law

After their sons were killed by gun violence in Milwaukee on September 24, 2003, three Milwaukee mothers discovered the three young men were killed by a weapon sold to a felon by a private citizen, and there is no requirement to record private citizen gun sales. That discovery prompted the proposed Responsible Gun Ownership Bill.

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton, Mayor Tom Barrett, state Sen. Spencer Coggs, state Rep. Leon Young, County Board Chair Lee Holloway, Common Council President Willie L. Hines Jr., Ald. Robert G. Donovan and other elected officials and community members, including Debra Fifer of Mothers Against Gun Violence, will call for state legislation to mandate that private citizens record private gun sales. The news conference at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, February 14, 2005, will be held in conjunction with an exhibit in the City Hall rotunda "Life & Death – Today's Holocaust," which displays photos, personal effects and life size images of victims of gun homicides in Milwaukee. Media coverage is invited.

Ald. Hamilton and County Board Supervisor Peggy West, who are sponsoring city and county resolutions in support of the law, are among the sponsors of the Mothers Against Gun Violence exhibit. "I agree with the moms that allowing private gun sales without a recording requirement has created an illegal gun market, and is an oversight in the law that needs to be corrected," said Ald. Hamilton. HJ